

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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R 061543Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1216

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 130

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, SY, JO, XF

SUBJECT: QUADRIpartite MEETING

1. ACCORDING TO ARAB LEAGUE SYG RIAD'S STATEMENT TO PRESS, QUADRIpartite MEETINGS (EGYPT, SYRIA, JORDAN AND PLO) ON JAN 3 AND 4 WERE CONSTRUCTIVE AND CORDIAL. FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL MEET AGAIN IN DAMASCUS IN FEBRUARY AND WILL HOLD PERIODIC BILATERAL MEETINGS IN CAIRO, DAMASCUS AND AMMAN. OFFICIAL STATEMENT ISSUED ON JAN 4 ADDED ALSO THAT DELEGATES HAD BEEN INFORMED OFFGOE EFFORTS TO RENDER RABAT RESOLUTIONS MEANINGFUL, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION PRESERVATION OF RIGHTS GAINED BY PALESTINIANS AND LATTERS' OBLIGATIONS VIS A VIS OCCUPIED TERRITORY OF PALESTINE. REPORTEDLY ALL THREE FOREIGN MINISTERS PLEDGED FULL SUPPORT FOR PLO AND WILL ASSIST IT IN ASSUMING ITS NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

2. COMMENT: OUR PRELIMINARY SOUNDINGS INDICATE ATMOSPHERE WAS INDEED CORDIAL. QUADDUMI APPARENTLY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT HUSSEIN'S JORDANIZATION POLICY, TO WHICH RIFAI RESPONDED WITHCALM, STRAIGHTFORWARD EXPOSITION OF GOJ'S ACTIONS SO FAR AND PHILOSOPHY
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BEHIND THEM. QUADDUMI REPORTEDLY PROPOSED THAT PLO OFFICE IN

AMMAN BE PERMITTED TO EXERCISE SUCH POLITICAL FUNCTIONS AS MAINTAINING ROUTINE AND BROAD CONTACT WITH PALESTINIANS IN JORDAN, AND ALSO PRESENTED HIS MAXIMUM REQUEST, VIZ. STATIONING OF GUERRILLA UNITS IN COUNTRY. LATTER POINT WAS REPORTEDLY REJECTED IMMEDIATELY AND PREDICTABLY BY RIFAI. WE ALSO HAVE REPORT THAT RIFAI COMPLAINED, WITHOUT NAMING NAMES, OF PLO ANTI-HASHEMITE PROPAGANDA, AND THAT AFTER INITIAL EMBARRASSMENT, PLO RESPONDED BY PLEDGING THIS KIND OF TALK WOULD END. (FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT PLO REALLY WILL ENDEAVOR MUZZLE ABU IYAD, BUT THIS AT LEAST HAS APPARENTLY BEEN PROMISED.)

3. GOE WILL NO DOUBT BE PLEASED WITH CORDIALITY AND OUTCOME OF MEETING. SADAT WOULD PREFER BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS TO QUADRIPARTITE FORUM. FURTHERMORE, FRANKNESS AND CORIDALITY OF DICUSSION WILL BE TAKEN BY EGYPTIANS AS FEATHER IN THEIR CAP, AND DEMONSTRATION OF POSITIVE EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP IN REGION. LUCKILY FOR FAHMY WE UNDERSTAND KHADDAM DID NOT USE MEETING AS PLATFORM FOR STRONG, NEGATIVIST ATTACK ON EGYPTIAN ADHERENCE TO STP-BY-STEP APPROACH. EILT
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